

May 9, 1975

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President I have a question of Senator Burbach if he would answer please. Senator Burbach what about professional individuals who live in a city and go out and buy huge amounts of lands for tax benefits and purposes. What way would this prohibit them from doing that? We have examples of that. That is probably one of the most glaring example as to what has happened in our state. I'm talking about doctors and people who have been able to accumulate well....going out and buying large amounts of land. Not living on it, carrying it over to some leasee to manage the program. Using it for a corporate advantage. Does this prevent that from happening?

SENATOR BURBACH: This does not prevent that unless they are a corporation and they must declare this and they must continue until there is further legislation of some kind Senator Koch. But this is only and simply a reporting form. A reporting bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: I'm having difficulty understanding what this legislation is really doing to maintain a family farm. The way I understand a family farm is that it is a family that owns land, lives out there and uses it for a means to produce food for not only themselves but also others that don't live there.

SENATOR BURBACH: Senator Koch that was the original intent of LB203 and the other two bills, Senator Burrows and Senator Bereuters. But after the Attorney General's opinion said that it was unconstitutional I attempted to change mine and then the agricultural committee changed their bill further. Now the idea as Senator Schmit explained is that this is to make a determination as to how far spread this is through the operations of corporations. Not necessarily individuals. Senator Mills attempted to take care of the problems involved with individuals. The questions were brought up that the land is someplace and they don't make out the personal property list and there is just the real-estate there and this could have created problems. This is to determine and this is a deal and try for those people who are making great noises about the in roads being made by corporations in the field of agriculture. This is a far departure from that. This is nothing to change the existing program only to gain statistics.

SENATOR KOCH: In other words we are using legislation to try and determine whether the giant corporations are really engaging the family practice of farming, is that what were doing?

SENATOR BURBACH: This is getting the records to determine that yes.

SENATOR KOCH: The Secretary of State is supposed to make sure and report to this body as to what is happening?